AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Withdrawn) The composition according to claim 1, wherein the human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is any one of the following;

(a) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing; or

(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence in which one to several amino acid(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing, and having the HGF activity.

5. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Withdrawn) The composition according to claim 5, wherein the gene encoding a human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is a gene comprising any one of the following DNAs;

(a) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence listing;

(b) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence in which one to several nucleotide(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity;

(c) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing under the stringent condition, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity; or

(d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% or more homology with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a skin ulcer, comprising administering to a mammal a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for promoting neovascularization, comprising administering to a mammal a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

11-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a skin ulcer, comprising administering to a mammal a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

14. (Withdrawn) A method for promoting neovascularization, comprising administering to a mammal a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

15. (Withdrawn) A method for promoting granulation formation, comprising administering to a mammal a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein the gene encoding a human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is a gene comprising the following DNAs;

(a) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing;

(b) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence in which one to several nucleotide(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity;

(c) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing under the stringent condition, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity; or

(d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% or more homology with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity.

17. (Withdrawn) A method for making a pharmaceutical composition, comprising mixing a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

18-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 17, wherein the human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is any one of the following:

(a) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing; or

(b) a protein comprising an amino acid sequence in which one to several amino acid(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 1 of Sequence Listing, and having the HGF activity.

21. (Withdrawn) A method of making a pharmaceutical composition, which comprises mixing a gene encoding a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, with a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

22-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the gene encoding a human recombinant HGF in which five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain is a gene comprising any one of the following DNAs;

(a) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing;

(b) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence in which one to several nucleotide(s) is/are deleted, substituted or added in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encoding a protein having the HGF activity;

(c) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing under the stringent condition, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity; or

(d) a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% or more homology with a DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence described in SEQ ID NO: 2 of Sequence Listing, and encodes a protein having the HGF activity.

25. (Withdrawn) A sealing-type wound covering material, comprising a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain in combination with a sealing-type wound covering material.

26. (Withdrawn) A kit for treating a skin ulcer, comprising a composition containing a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, and a sealing-type wound covering material which can absorb an exudate from an affected part of skin ulcer.

27. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a skin ulcer, comprising covering wound surface with a sealing-type wound covering material which can absorb an exudate from the affected part of skin ulcer, maintaining the affected part of skin ulcer under the wet environment, and placing a human recombinant HGF wherein five amino acid residues are deleted in the first Kringle domain, in a sealing-type wound covering material, or between a sealing-type wound covering material and wound surface.

28. (New) A method for promoting granulation formation and enhanced wound healing in a skin ulcer of a mammal comprising:

selecting a mammal having a skin ulcer to receive a drug that promotes granulation formation and enhanced wound healing in said skin ulcer; and

topically administering a drug that comprises a protein of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 to said skin ulcer in an amount that promotes granulation formation and enhanced wound healing.

29. (New) The method of claim 28, further comprising analyzing the formation of granulation tissue at the skin ulcer of said mammal.

30. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug further comprises a gelling agent.

31. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug further comprises an antiseptic.

32. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug further comprises a fatty acid ester.

33. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug is in the form of a ointment.

34. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug is in the form of a cream.

35. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug is in the form of a gel.

36. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein said drug is in the form of a liquid.

37. (New) A method for promoting granulation formation and enhanced wound healing in a skin ulcer of a mammal comprising:

selecting a mammal having a skin ulcer to receive a drug that promotes granulation formation and enhanced wound healing in said skin ulcer;

topically administering a drug that comprises a protein of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 to said skin ulcer in an amount that promotes granulation formation and enhanced wound healing; and

analyzing the formation of granulation tissue and wound healing at the skin ulcer of said mammal.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug further comprises a gelling agent.

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug further comprises an antiseptic.

40. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug further comprises a fatty acid ester.

41. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug is in the form of a ointment.

42. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug is in the form of a cream.

43. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug is in the form of a gel.

44. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein said drug is in the form of a liquid.

45. (New) A method for promoting granulation formation and enhanced wound healing in a skin ulcer of a mammal comprising:

selecting a mammal having a skin ulcer to receive a drug that promotes granulation formation and enhanced wound healing in said skin ulcer;

providing a wound covering agent selected from the group consisting of a hydrocolloid dressing material, a hydrogen dressing material, a polyurethane dressing material, a hydropolymer dressing material, a hydrofiber dressing material, and a polyurethane foam;

contacting the skin ulcer of said mammal with said wound covering agent;

topically administering a drug that comprises a protein of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 to said skin ulcer in an amount that promotes granulation formation and enhanced wound healing; and

analyzing the formation of granulation tissue and wound healing at the skin ulcer of said mammal.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug further comprises a gelling agent.

47. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug further comprises an antiseptic.

48. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug further comprises a fatty acid ester.

49. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug is in the form of a ointment.

50. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug is in the form of a cream.

51. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug is in the form of a gel.

52. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said drug is in the form of a liquid.